

Message Text

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11

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /027 W

----- 055807

R 120552Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7246

INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 0226

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, ENRG, AS

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: AVIATION FUEL PRICING

REF: CANBERRA 0039, 75, STATE 301222, 75, CANBERRA 8055, 75

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED FURTHER INDICATIONS THAT QANTAS STRONGLY RESISTING IMPLEMENTATION "INTERNATIONAL PARITY PRICE" POLICY ON AVIATION FUEL. AS RESULT, ENTIRE POLICY CURRENTLY UNDER JOINT REVIEW BY DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORT (DOT) AND NATIONAL RESOURCES (FORMERLY MINERALS AND ENERGY).

2. ACCORDING TO PETER FULLERTON, BRITISH E/C COUNSELOR, CANBERRA, IT IS TRUE THAT MOST INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES IN AUSTRALIA CURRENTLY NOT REPEAT NOT PAYING PARITY PRICE SUPPOSEDLY IN EFFECT SINCE DECEMBER 1, INCLUDING BRITISH AIRWAYS (BA). HE SAID INFORMATION TO EFFECT BA PAYING NEW PRICE ON CONDITIONAL BASIS AT FIRST CORRECT BUT THAT AFTER MATTER PLACED UNDER HIGH COURT REVIEW BY PANAM LEGAL CHALLENGE (75 CANBERRA 8055), BA AND OTHER AIRLINES WHOSE CONTRACTS DO NOT SPECIFY NEW PARITY PRICE REVERTED TO OLD PRICES PENDING COURT DECISION. HE ALSO REPORTED THAT ACCORDING TO BRITISH CIVAIR OFFICER MELBOURNE, QANTAS HAS PREPARED PAPER ARGUING STRONGLY THAT PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT'S PARITY PRICE DECISION WAS WRONG AND SHOULD BE RESCINDED. THIS PAPER CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION. MATTER THEREFORE IS IN STATE OF CONSIDERABLE SENSITIVITY
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AT THIS POINT, NO DOUBT ACCOUNTING FOR DOT'S RELUCTANCE

TO DISCUSS IT AT UPCOMING INFORMAL TALKS.
PERCIVAL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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